DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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DEF 3 3 3

#1 - S/S-R Mr. Manfull

2 - Mr. Miller

3 - Chron

August 30, 1951

S/S-R - Mr. Manfull

The attached policy statement on Mexico appears to be entirely adequate. The following comment on particular points is submitted:

Page 7: In order to remove the possibility that the last paragraph might in some way be related to the preceding one, the last paragraph might better be transferred to follow the paragraph which begins at the bottom of page 6.

Page 8 - First complete paragraph: Although it may be that the Mexican peso has recently been strengthened, the statement on this point in its present form is misleading. The peso has been devalued twice during the Aleman regime--dropping from 4.85, to an intermediate point, and eventually to 8.65 pesos to one dollar.

Page 9: The reference in the first and second lines on this page to Mexico's attitude toward GATT is an understatement. Mexico has shown more than indifference--it was actually hostile to GATT at the Havana Conference.

Page 12: It would seem to be advisable in the interests of accuracy and explicitness to add at the bottom of page 12 a statement indicating that Mexican laws and Mexican philosophy both are inimical to the development of Mexico's petroleum resources by private capital--if, as it is assumed, foreign private capital is included in that phrase.

Page 13: The statement in the last paragraph on this page appears to be unnecessarily vague. If we are lending "appropriate assistance to raise the very low Mexican standard of living", some indication of the efforts we are making in that respect should be given.

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Page 14: Since this paper was drafted, the statement at the beginning of page 14 that there has been no outbreak of foot and mouth disease in Mexico since December 1950 apparently has become inaccurate. Press reports indicate that there has been a recent outbreak of that disease.

Page 17: In the first paragraph on this page "flaunts" is used where "flouts" is obviously intended.

S - Harry Schwartz

Attachment:

Draft Policy Statement on Mexico,
August 29, 1951

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S/P:WThurston:enk

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